

11

人形
MUSASHI
MIYUKI TAKAHASHI

2007

The
war
not
old
Mus
Mus
adv
for
now
A Bi
Bro
at a
pos
star
sac
Shir
with
your
war
the

Sh

All



MUSASHI #9

By Miyuki Takahashi

Volume 11

The story so far...

The history of mankind has been one of wars. Rotteness, resentment would have doomed the planet to annihilation were it not for Ultimate Blue, a secret organization also known as the "other United Nations," and its team of super agents. Musashi Nine is one of them.

Musashi goes undercover at Techibana Shingo's school and solves cases. Her sudden disappearance spurs Shingo to look for her, even though he knows their differences may be insurmountable.

A Brazilian terrorist group called the Black Snakes takes the Brazilian ambassador to Japan and several employees hostage at an exhibition of Brazilian treasures. Its goal is to derail the peace negotiations going on between Brazil and its long-standing enemy, the neighboring country of China. Musashi suspects it's getting in as one of the hostages.

Shingo and his new-found friends also succeed in getting in. Just when it appears the case is solved and a long-anticipated reunion is about to take place, Shingo is critically injured by a grenade. Nine has just received word Shingo has succumbed to his injuries.



He is befriended by Musashi who helps him avenge his best friend. He rightly suspected she faked her death and searched for her before finally catching up to her, but...

Shingo Techibana



Aileen

Ultimate Blue agent. She goes undercover at Techibana's school as the daughter of a Southeast Asian country's president. Techibana and his friends are called on to "protect" her, but she proves to be very headstrong.



Musashi (Yuu Shinohara)

Ultimate Blue agent #9. An elite agent with the ability to change the course of world history, working for a clandestine organization also known as the "other United Nations." After solving cases with Shingo at his school, she suddenly disappeared only to reveal his again.



#19

Ultimate Blue agent. He regards Nine as his lieutenant and at times as her double. He catches onto the growing affection between #9 and Shingo. Nicknamed One-Niner.

The history of mankind has been one of wars. Race. Religion. Philosophy. The causes are untold.

The combatants have their own justifications, but on occasion, some create a volatile situation that threatens to destroy the world.



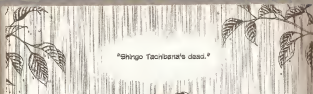
UB

Ultimate Blue.

An organization shrouded in complete secrecy. Also known as "the other United Nations." Nobody knows when it was created. Nobody knows where it is based.

The Blue of the Seas.
The Blue of the Skies.
The Blue of the Earth.

The last line of defense against chaos.



"Shingo Tachibana's dead."

Yui quietly took the news--then left without saying another word. *She didn't come back.*

Later on, Agent 19 would occasionally drop by and tell us how Yui was doing. Apparently, she went around doing her thing like nothing happened.

A lot of stuff went through my head then. I couldn't figure her out. How was she able to take it so calmly? Didn't she like Shingo?

I was thinking maybe I had it all wrong. Maybe there wasn't anything going on between them after all.

CONTENTS

- 5 **Mission 21:**
The Way Out,
Part 4
- 45 **Mission 21:**
The Way Out,
Part 5
- 89 **Mission 22:**
The Asian Tempest,
Part 1
- 130 **Mission 22:**
The Asian Tempest,
Part 2



9番目の ムサシ

Mission 21: The Way Out, Part 4



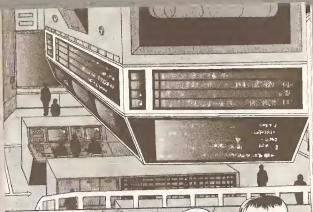
Eventually me, the guys,
we all found out the truth.

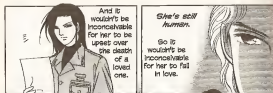
Yuu was human after all.

She hadn't been the same after Shingo died.

We just didn't know it then.







And it wouldn't be inconceivable for her to be upset over the death of a loved one.

She's still human.

So it wouldn't be inconceivable for her to fail in love.



Oh...ah...right.

WHAT DO YOU WANT, 19?

WHAT?



IT'S TERRIBLE WHAT HAPPENED BUT THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW.

HE DIDN'T HAVE A FAMILY, DID HE?

OH...

I SEE.

I'M JUST HERE TO REPORT WE'VE NOTIFIED SHIMAO'S NEXT OF KIN.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO ENSURE FUTURE MISSIONS ARE SUCCESSFUL SO HIS DEATH WASN'T IN VAIN.



IF YOU SAY SO.



HE'S TOO OVERLY CONCERNED, AS ALWAYS.

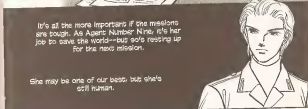


The short periods between missions are for relaxing--if it can be called that.



BESIDES, I LIKE KEEPING BUSY.

YES, I AM POKING OVER THESE FILES, BUT NONE OF IT'S DEMANDING.



It's all the more important if the missions are tough. As Agent Number Nine, it's her job to save the world--but so's resting up for the next mission.

She may be one of our best, but she's still human.



List of cases?



HERE'S THE LIST OF CASES AS OF TWELVE HUNDRED TODAY.

THANKS.

LEAVE IT ON THE DESK.

HEY.



I REGULARLY SUBMIT REPORTS OF CASES OCCURRING IN TOKYO.

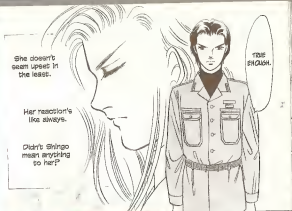
WHAT KIND OF CASES?



WHAT'S THIS LIST OF CASES?

YES, NUMBER 19?

IT'S BEING PUT TOGETHER ON HER ORDERS.



She doesn't seem upset in the least.

THE SQUASH.

Her reaction's like always.

Didn't Shingo mean anything to her?



Are all of our top agents like that?

How can she take it so calmly?

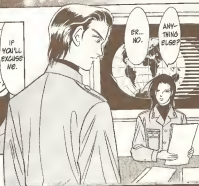
That's got to have some impact.

Her first love was killed.



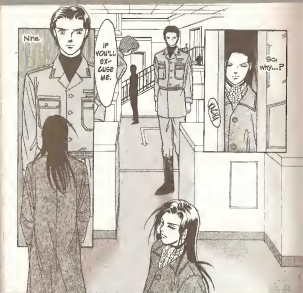
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.

PARDON ME, NUMBER NINE.



ER... NO.

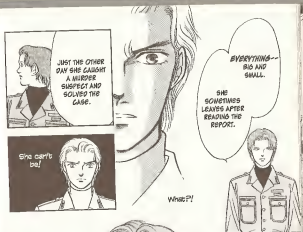
ANYTHING ELSE?



Nine

IF YOU'LL
EX-
CUSE
ME.

Say
why...?



JUST THE OTHER
DAY SHE CAUGHT
A MURDER
SUSPECT AND
SOLVED THE
CASE.

She can't
bel!

EVERYTHING--
BIS AND
SHALL.

SHE
SOMETIMES
LEAVES AFTER
READING THE
REPORT.

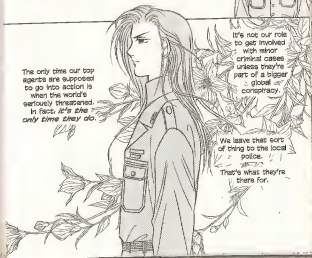
What?!

The only time our top
agents are supposed
to go into action is
when the world's
seriously threatened.
In fact, it's the
only time they do.

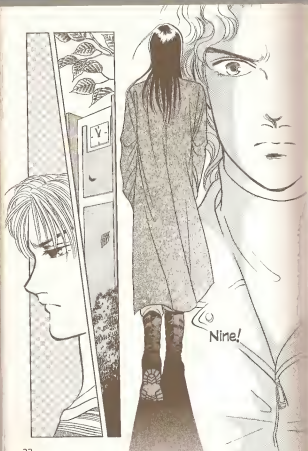
It's not our role
to get involved
with minor
criminal cases
unless they're
part of a bigger
global
conspiracy.

We leave that sort
of thing to the local
police.

That's what they're
there for.





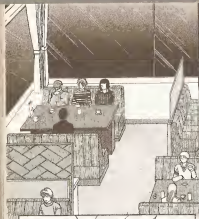


MAYBE SHINZO
WASN'T
SPECIAL TO
HER. MAYBE I
JUST HAD IT
WRONG.

OR MAYBE SHE
JUST DOESN'T
HAVE FEELINGS
LIKE THE REST
OF US.

I MEAN, SHE'S
OUT SAYIN' THE
WORLD. SHE
CAN'T AFFORD
GETTIN' TRIPPED
UP WITH THAT
SORTA THING.





WE FIGURED ANY MORE WOULD ATTRACT TOO MUCH ATTENTION. WE'LL TELL THE OTHERS LATER.

WE KEPT IT TO THE THREE OF US.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN.

BUT EVERY ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS IS OURS.



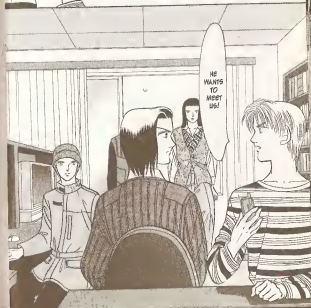
HUH? IT'S FROM 19?



PI PI PI PI PI

JUST STRUNG HIM ALONG?

I THINK THERE WAS MORE TO IT THAN THAT.



HE WANTS TO MEET US!





CALL ME ONE-NINER.



WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED?

YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVE A REASON FOR CALLING US HERE.

ALL RIGHT, THEN.



JUST TELL ME ONE THING.

LET'S JUST SAY A LOT OF STUFF WENT DOWN.



SHINGO.

WHAT WAS HE TO HER?



SHE OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW THAT, BUT...

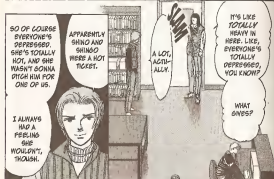
THEN WHAT?

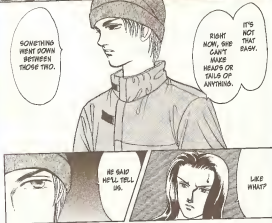
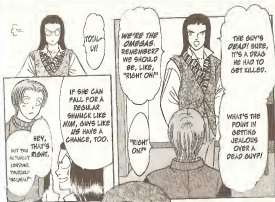
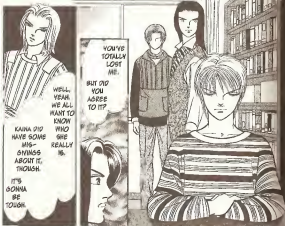
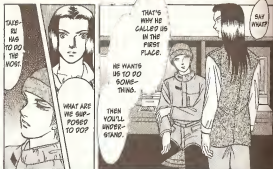


YOU'RE SAYING SHE'S DOING ALL THIS BECAUSE SHE'S THAT DEVASTATED?

SHINGO MEANT A LOT MORE TO HER THAN I THOUGHT.







I'M NOT SURE OF THE DETAILS BUT I'M HAVING A FEW OF OUR PEOPLE LOOK INTO IT.

SOME-
ONE'S
AFTER
ASAM?

WHAT DO
YOU
MEAN?

Clearly, though, someone's after him.

WHAT DOES ASAMI HAVE TO SAY?

KANAME
NAKA-
MURAP
THAT
WOULD
EXPLAIN
THINGS.

HIS FRIEND,
NAKANURA, SAID
SOMEONE TRIED
TO ABUSE ASANO
LAST NIGHT.

THAT'S
THE
PROB-
LEM.

W4W2

I
DON'T
KNOW.

IT SEEMS LIKE
ASAM DIDN'T
WANT YOU TO
FIND OUT.

IT'S GONNA
BE REALLY
HARD ON
HIM.

TAKRU
HAS TO
DO IT.

WHAT?
I DON'T
FOLLOW

IT'S
LIKE THIS.
IT'S
GONNA BE
'REEN-
ACTED.'



You haven't been your usual self.

It's important you return to being the Muzashi we know.

You have to face up to it sooner or later.

That said, I didn't have a choice.

That's not you.

But I can use that.



WHAT'S HE THINKING?

I'D BETTER SEE HIM.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR YOU.

IT COULD BE JUST TYPICAL TEEN PROBLEMS.

IF YOU SAY SO.

IF THE SAME PEOPLE ARE AFTER HIM, IT'S BEYOND HIM.

HE WAS CAUGHT UP IN A BIG CASE HIMSELF.

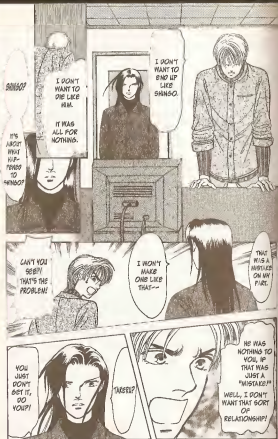


WHATEVER THE REASON, I HAVE TO PROTECT HIM UNTIL WE KNOW MORE.

IT'S OUR JOB TO CONTINUE WATCHING OUT FOR PEOPLE WE'VE HELPED.

Sorry to see you up like this.





I DON'T
WANT TO
CAUSE
PROBLEMS
FOR YOU.
BUT JUST
KNOWING
YOU'RE
INVOLVED
MAKES IT
THAT MUCH
HARDER.

IT'S HARD
EVEN
BEING
NEAR YOU.

JUST
FORGET
ABOUT
ME!

LEAVE ME
ALONE!

SLAM!

Takeru?

GET
THE
PIC-
TURE?

AS MUCH AS
HE EVER DID!
MAYBE
MORE!

I
LIKE
YOU!

DON'T
YOU
GET IT?
I LIKE
YOU...

9番目の ムサシ



Mission 21: The Way Out, Part 5

*I love you.
That's why I can't stay
with you.*



*You're the person
who means the
most to me.*



*OH,
SHINGO!*

End of Mission 21: The Way Out, Part 4

Ultimate Blue's Headquarters
in Japan



WHAT DO
YOU
MEAN?

ASAHI'S
MISSING?



IS IT RELATED
TO THE
EARLIER
KIDNAPPING
ATTEMPT?

WE'RE
NOT
SURE
YET.

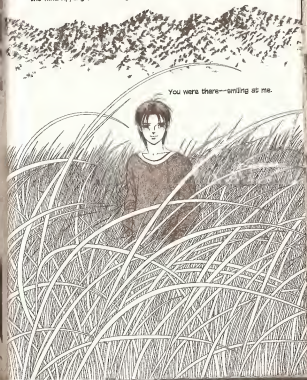
HIS FRIENDS
WERE
WORRIED SO
THEY
CONTACTED
ME.

HE HASN'T BEEN
HOME. HE
HASN'T BEEN TO
SCHOOL,
EITHER.



I had a dream.

I was at the foot of the mountains,
the wind rippling the sea of grass.



You were there—smiling at me.



None of it's real.

I see this whole thing up.

I'm sorry.

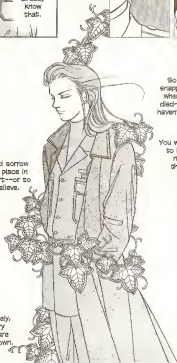


Something snapped inside when Shingo died--only you haven't noticed.

You were trained to block out negative thoughts.

Love and sorrow have no place in your heart--or so you believe.

Unfortunately, those very thoughts are tying you down.



That's
Saijingo
running
away!

No.
That isn't
Takeru.

It's too
painful
to even
think
about.

Takeru?!

Our time
together.

It's all
gone.

But I was
only fooling
myself--and
feeling
terrible for
it.

It was so
you'd be
safe.

It was so
we could
end it.

Usually, you'd
see through
his cheap
charade
instantly.

That's the
Nine I want to
see again.

Now that you've known
love, you'll always want
it. But with love comes
sorrow.

You have to accept
everything. It's the
only way to deal with
it.

I'll do
whatever it
takes to break
those chains.

I like you!

So just
forget
about
me!

It's hard
even being
near you.
Just
knowing
you're
involved
makes it
that much
harder.

As much
as he ever
did!
Maybe
more!



SOME OF HIS
INFLUENTIAL
POLITICANS

YOUR OLD
MAN'S
TOO
FAMOUS.

EVEN HIS
IN ON IT?

DUH?

TAKERU
HAS TO
HIDE OUT
SOME-
WHERE
REAL
QUIET.

HE WAS
THE
ONLY
ONE
THAT FIT
THE
BILL.

I'M THE
ONLY
ONE WHO
DOESN'T
KNOW?

WELL,
KANAME,
LET'S DO IT.

SHIT

KNOW,
YOU'LL
FIND OUT
SOON
ENOUGH.

IT'S ONE-
NINE'S
PLAN, BY
THE WAY.



LIKE,
TAKERU'S
BEEN
KIDNAPPED.

WE'RE
GONNA
PULL A
FAST ONE
ON U.S.

AH...
NOW
WHAT?

YEAH.

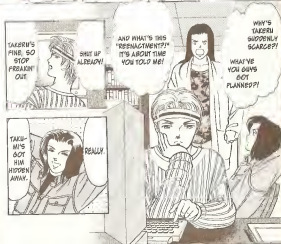


I wish I could just
forget!

Peace!



WHAT'S GOING
ON?
COME ON!



TAKERU'S
FINE, SO
STOP
FREAKIN'
OUT.

SHUT UP
ALREADY!

AND WHAT'S THIS
"REINACTMENT"?*
IT'S ABOUT TIME
YOU TOLD ME!

WHY'S
TAKERU
SUDDENLY
SCARED?!

WHAT'VE
YOU GUYS
GOT
PLANNED?!

TAKERU'S
GOT
HIM
HIDDEN
AWAY.

REALLY.



A BUNCH
OF BOONS
TOOK
HIM--FOR
REAL!

IT'S
TAKING!



WHAT?!



I DUNNO.
SOME
GUYS OUR
AGE.

WHO?!

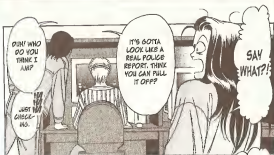


THEN WE
GOT INTO IT
WITH A
BUNCH OF
BOONS.

WE WERE
HIDIN' OUT IN
ONE OF MY
OLD MAN'S
EMPTY OFFICES.
BUT HE SAID
HE WAS SICK
OF BEIN'
COOPED UP,
SO WE
STEPPED
OUT, YOU
KNOW?



YOU
DON'T
BELIEVE
IT!



OH! WHO
DO YOU
THINK I
AM?

JUST TRY
CHECK-
ING.

IT'S GOTTA
LOOK LIKE A
REAL POLICE
REPORT. THINK
YOU CAN PULL
IT OFF?

SAY
WHAT?!



WELL...WELL,
I GUESS THAT
SORTA HELPS. I
MEAN, HOW ELSE
ARE YOU GONNA
FOOL HER?

AWP?

BUT STILL,
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOU'RE
HELPING
HIM.

ESPECIALLY THE
DIRTY



CALL OUT,
GUYS. ONE-
NINER'S
BACKIN' US
UP.



U.S.'S THE
WORLD'S
MOST
POWERFUL
ORGANI-
ZATION!

IF THEY
FIND OUT,
THEY'LL
KILL US
OR
WORSE!



THERE. ALL
I HAVE TO
DO IS
SEND IT.

WE CAME
TO A LITTLE
AGREEMENT.



THAT'S
WHAT
THIS IS
ALL ABOUT.

IT DOESN'T
MATTER
NOW! WE
HAVE TO
HELP
TAKERU!



SO
MUCH
FOR THE
PLAN!



THE PLAN WAS
TO FAKE
TAKERU'S
KIDNAPPING AND
FORCE VIL TO
GO TO A
CERTAIN PLACE.



P
L
A
N
?

THAT
STUPID
MORON!



NEXT THING
YOU KNOW,
HE'S LIPPIN'
'EM OFF,
SO THEY
PUNNY HIM
AND KILL
HIM OFF IN
THEIR CAR.

YOU
KNOW
HOW HE'S
TWITCHIN'
OUT
RIGHT
NOW.



TAKERU GOT IT
SOUND WHEN HE
CONFERRED TO
VIL. THERE'S
NO TURNING
BACK NOW!

BUT HE'S
THE IDIOT
THAT
MESSES
IT UP!

SEVERAL THINGS
WERE NEEDED TO
MAKE THIS WORK.
IT HAD TO LOOK LIKE
TAKERU WAS IN
DANGER. IT ALSO
HAD TO TELL VIL HE
LIVED HERE WITHOUT
EVERYTHING IN
PLACE, ONE-NINER
SAID IT WOULDN'T
PLAY OUT AGAIN.





I'M SORRY.

YOU BROUGHT THIS UPON YOURSELVES.

U.S. DOESN'T GET INVOLVED IN CIVILIAN AFFAIRS UNLESS IT DIRECTLY AFFECTS ONE OF OUR MISSIONS.

YOU DEAL WITH IT.

BUT... BUT...

WHO ARE YOU BIDDING?!



IT LOOKS LIKE I'VE BEEN SET UP.

I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD BE INVOLVED, THOUGH.



YOU CAUSED ALL OF THIS!



BYE.

AND
REMEMBER
WHAT
TAKES DID
FOR YOU,
TOO!

I REALLY
DON'T
KNOW WHAT
ONE-
NINER'S
TRYING TO
DO!

BUT I DO
KNOW YOU'VE
CAUSED A LOT
OF MISERY
FOR A LOT OF
PEOPLE. JUST
REMEMBER
THAT!



WHAT DID
THEY LOOK
LIKE? WHAT
WAS THE
MAKE OF THE
CAR?



AH...
YEAH.



KAINA-
MEE?

KAINA,
LET'S
GO!

NO SENSE
IN ASKING
THIS STUPID
GOW
NUTHIN'!

KAINA'S
DANDEROUS
WHEN HE
LOSSES IT.



US AND
ONE-NINER
ARE GOIN'
NUTS TRYIN'
TO HELP
YOU!

BUT YOU'VE
BEEN ACTIN'
ALL WEIRD
SINCE HE WAS
KILLED!



I DUNNO
WHAT HE
MEANT TO
YOU!



TAKA-
KANA
SHINJO!



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



YEAH, RIGHT!
SOME U.S. AGENT
YOU ARE!
WE'RE A BUNCH
OF RANK
AMATEURS BUT WE
MANAGED TO SET
YOU UP RIGHT
GOOD!

YOU DON'T GET
INVOLVED IN
CIVILIAN
CASES?I SURE!
WHY ARE YOU
EVEN HERE?



HIS
ACTING
STRANGE?

I
DON'T
THINK
SO.

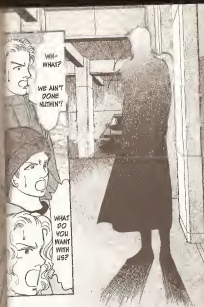


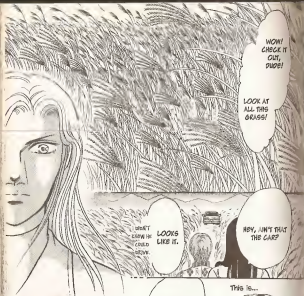
THE SADDEST
PART IS HE HAD
TO SAY IT! AND
LOOK WHERE IT
GOT HIM!



HEY,
LIV
OFF
HER,
DUDE.

TAKESHI WAS
TOTALLY SERIOUS
WHEN HE SAID THAT
TO YOU! DO YOU
KNOW WHAT IT
TOOK?





WOAH!
CHECK IT
OUT,
DUDE!

LOOK AT
ALL THIS
GRASS!

LOOKS
LIKE IT.

HEY, AIN'T THAT
THE CAR?

This is...

SO TAKERU'S
AROUND HERE
SOMEBODY.

WHAT?

SORRY, I
HAVE TO
LEAVE.

WHAT?

TRYING
TO RUN
AWAY,
NINE?

RANS
ON.

YOU
DEAL
WITH IT.



I CAUSED
THIS, SO I'D
BETTER
RESOLVE
THIS.

PROBABLY
THERE.

THAT WAS
WHERE WE
WERE GOING.
TAKE YOU IN
THE FIRST
PLACE.

ANY
IDEAS
WHERE
HE
WENT?

SORRY
ABOUT
THAT.

THEN
LET'S
GO.

JUST LIKE
IN THE
MOVIES.

LIES...
AT...
NOW.



THE HARDER YOU TRY TO FORGET THE HARDER IT BECOMES.

JUST LIKE SHINGO.

I BROUGHT YOU HERE BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS LIKE.



AND REMEMBER WHY YOU FAKED YOUR OWN DEATH.

REMEMBER HOW MUCH YOU REALLY LOVED SHINGO.

DON'T TRY TO FORGET. TRY TO REMEMBER IT ALL.

BUT I NEEDED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.

THE LOSS OF SHINGO WAS DEVASTATING FOR YOU.

YOU JUST HAVEN'T NOTICED.

THE TOP U.S. AGENTS ARE SUPPOSED TO INSTANTLY BLOCK OUT ALL EMOTIONS THAT MIGHT AFFECT THEIR OWN WELL BEING OR THEIR MISSIONS.

IN FACT, YOU'RE TRAINED TO. I KNOW ALL THAT.

BUT SOME THINGS ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH.



TAKEN! ONE-NINER!

WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

YOU TOOK LONGER THAN I EXPECTED.



NIH?



I'M SORRY I GOT YOU UP FOR THAT. I'M PREPARED TO FACE ANY PUNISHMENT.

THIS PLACE MUST BRING BACK MEMORIES.

YOU SAID GOODBYE TO SHINGO HERE. HOW DOES IT FEEL TO COME BACK?



IT MIGHT
A MISTAKE
!



TO GET OVER
THE PAIN,
YOU'RE EVEN
REJECTING LOVE.



I DIDN'T
HAVE A
CHOICE.



IT
WASNT
...



I WANTED TO
MAKE SURE
HE WAS
SAFE.



THERE ARE
NO RULES
SAVING YOU
CAN'T LOVE
SOMEONE.

I
CHECKED



THERE'S ONLY
ONE WAY TO
GET OVER IT.
YOU HAVE TO
ACCEPT
EVERYTHING.
THE PAIN.
EVERY-
THING.
OTHERWISE,
THERE'S NO
HOPE FOR
YOU--OR
SHINSO.

IT WAS
WRONG
HOW YOU
LEFT
SHINSO.
AND IT WAS
WRONG TO
CONTINUE
IN THE LIE.

ADMIT IT.
WHAT YOU
DID WAS
WRONG.



SO SHE
FAKED HER
DEATH AND
LEFT HIM.

SHINSO
WAS IN
DANGER
JUST
BEING
NEAR
NINE.



BUT THERE
WAS A
CRITICAL
PLAN IN
YOUR PLAN,
NINE.



THAT'S
HEAVY.

WOW.



THAT
PAIN
SAVE
HIM
LIFE.

BUT IT
ALSO
SAVE HIM
DEATH.



YOU DIDN'T REALIZE
HOW PAINFUL THE
DEATH OF A LOVED
ONE COULD BE. IT'S
ONLY NOW YOU'RE
STARTING TO
UNDERSTAND WHAT
IT'S LIKE.

FIRST AND
FORE-
MOST,
YOU HAD
TO THINK
ABOUT
HOW HE
WOULD
FEEL.
YOU
DIDN'T,
THOUGH.

ANY
RECORDS?

WELL?

SOP

EVEN
IF IT
KILLING
HIM.

THAT I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE LEFT
HIM?

THAT
I...

...FELL
IN LOVE
WITH HIM?

HE NEVER
GAVE UP.

BUT HE
HAD A
PEACEFUL
LIFE IN A
PEACEFUL
SOCIETY.

MY LIFE IS
FILLED WITH
DANGER.
I CAN
ACCEPT
THAT.

I THOUGHT
IT WOULD
BE SAFER
WITH ME
OUT OF
THE
SITUATION.

THAT'S
WHY--

YOU
MISCALCULATED.

THAT'S
WHERE
YOU'RE
WRONG.

HE NEVER
GAVE UP.

HIS LOVE FOR
YOU WAS SO
DEEP A CHEAP
CHARADE WASN'T
GOING TO BREAK
IT.

HE WAS
SUPPOSED
TO HAVE A
"NORMAL
LIFE."
IS THAT
TOO MUCH
TO ASK?

HE
COULDN'T
ACCEPT
THAT YOU
DIED.

YOU MAY HAVE
WANTED A
NORMAL LIFE
FOR HIM BUT
HE THREW THAT
ALL AWAY TO
FIND YOU.

rustle

NOT A DAY
GOES BY
WHEN I
DON'T.

I THINK
ABOUT
HIM
EVERY
DAY.

I
REMEMBER
LOADING
HIM.

AND I'LL
CONTINUE
TO.

AND I'M GOING
TO LOVE HIM
FOR THE
REST OF MY
LIFE.

I
LOVED
HIM.

I
LOVED
HIM.

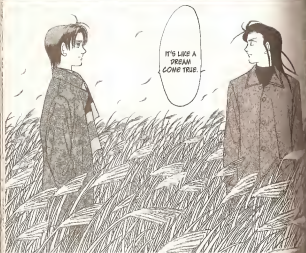
I
LOVE
HIM
EVEN
NOW.



TO HEAR
YOU SAY
THAT... NOW.



IT'S LIKE A
DREAM
COME TRUE.



THANKS TO RIM, I KNOW
WHAT YOU
REALLY THINK
OF ME NOW.

BELIEVE ME,
IT'S MORE
THAN I
COULD'VE
WISHED FOR.

DON'T BE
TOO HARD
ON ONE-
NINER.

NAH, IT'S
ALL
RIGHT.

SHIN-
GO?

LOVE ISN'T
NEGATIVE
IT'S
POSITIVE!

I WANTED YOU
TO UNDERSTAND
THAT.

TRY TO
MAKE IT
WORK
SOME-
HOW.

YOU CAN'T HAVE
ME GETTING IN
YOUR WAY.

I KNOW WHAT
YOU HAVE TO
GO THROUGH.

I CAN
GET ON
WITH MY
MOM.

BUT
YOU'LL
ALWAYS
BE IN MY
THOUGHTS.

I'M HAPPY
WITH JUST
WHAT YOU
SAID.

EVERYTHING I
DID TILL NOW
WASN'T A
WASTED EFFORT.

ONE-NINER
WAS ON THE
ROOF OF THE
ELEVATOR--
BEFORE THE
EXPLOSION.

HE PULLED
ME UP JUST
IN TIME.

SORRY
FOR THE
CHARADE,
NINE.

SHUT
UP, DUMB!

HEY,
WHAT'S
YOUR
ONE?

SAY
WHAT?

THEN THE
HOSPITAL
THE
FUNERAL--
IT WAS ALL
JUST AN
ACT?

THAT'S
INSANE.

YES,
YOU'RE
ONE OF
OUR
BEST--
BUT
YOU'RE
STILL
HUMAN.

YOU NEED
TO STOP
AND THINK
SOMETIMES.
MORE SO,
IF YOU'RE
ALWAYS ON
THE MOVE.

I USED TO THINK
LOVE AND ALL
THAT WOULD
INTERFERE WITH
MISSIONS, TOO.
BUT WATCHING
SHINGO, I
STARTED THINKING
OTHERWISE.

I FIGURED HE'D
STAY WITH YOU
THROUGH THICK
AND THIN. THAT
WAS THE
IMPORTANT THING.
TIME WITH HIM
WOULD BE A
RESPIRE FROM
YOUR REGULAR
DUTIES.



Thank you.
I mean it.

I finally
managed to
say goodbye
to you
properly.

No more seeing
you off with a smile
'cause, this time, I
know you won't be
coming back.

But still, thank you.

And goodbye.
This time it's final.

My love.

FOR
EVERY-
THING.

THANKS,
SHINOBU-
ZUKA.

RUSTLE



RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

The sun.



It's finally falling on the mountains.



It's like when we
promised each other so
long ago.

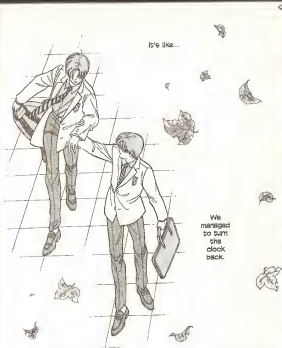
We faced a lot of
hurdles then and
now. But we
managed to
overcome them.

Cool. The sunlight.

It's everywhere.

WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING?

HURRY UP
AND GET
OVER
HERE!



"I've decided it's positive."

That's what she whispered with a smile.



SO OUR
OMEGA
CLUB IS
NOW U.S.'S
NEW
SUPPORT
TEAM.

I TOLD HIM
WE'D HELP OUT
ONLY IF HE'D
TAKE US ON--
ONLY IN WAYS
WE CAN, OF
COURSE. HE
AGREED.

WASTE WASTE WASTE WASTE WASTE



LET'S
GO
FOR A
WALK.

I'M ON
LEAVE.

ANY
MIS-
SHONS?



I
HEAR
YA,
BUD.

WE'LL NEVER
SEE THEM
AGAIN.

STILL, I
HOPE THEY
CAN MAKE IT
WORK.



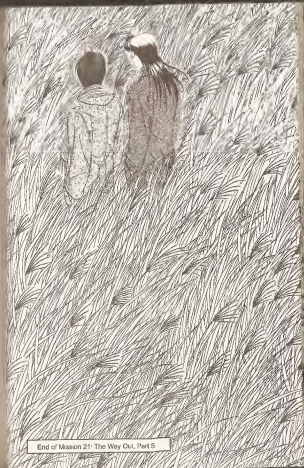
IT'S
GOODBYE
TO U.S.F.

WHAT
ARE YOU
GUYS
ON
ABOUT?



I TOLD YOU.
I SAID WE'D
HELP HIM ON
ONE
CONDITION.

WELL,
YEAH, I
MEANT--



End of Mission 21: The Way Out, Part 5



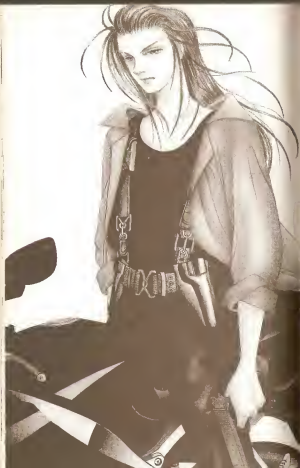
Ultimate Blue (U.B.)

The top five agents of the world's ultimate organization have the power to alter the course of history.

They each have their own brand of expertise so what happens they command legions to assist them.

The agents with double digits agents 10 through 99 have their roles as their subjects and the secretely assigned missions of almost importance.

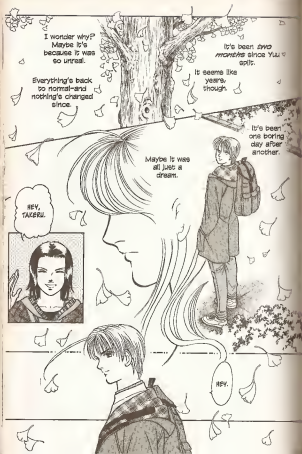




9番目の ムサシ

Mission 22: The Asian Tempest, Part 1





I wonder why?
Maybe it's
because it was
so unreal.

Everything's back
to normal—and
nothing's changed
since.

It's been *two*
months since Yui
aplt.

It seems like
years,
though.

It's been
one boring
day after
another.

Maybe it was
all just a
dream.

REV.
TAKERU.

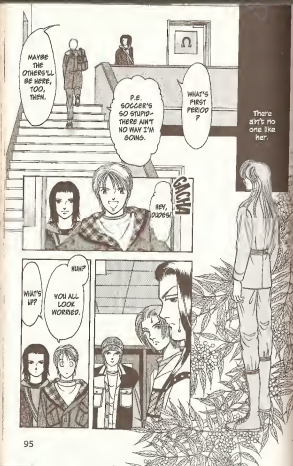
REV.



U.S. AGENT IN ASIA
OPERATIVE NUMBER: 10
CODENAME: TIEN XIANG

ONE OF 09'S ADJUTANTS
IN ASIA

OCCASIONALLY
DOUBLES FOR HER





I THINK YOU KNOW WHY I'M HERE.

I HAVE A MISSION FOR OMSGA, OUR NEW SUPPORT TEAM.



THE GENERAL CAN'T DO ANYTHING OVERT BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT'S TOO POPULAR.

YES.

SO HE'S GONNA DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO MAKE THE PRESIDENT RESIGN.

ALL THAT'S LEFT TO HIM IS A COUP D'ETAT?

A COUP?!

THERE'S NO PROOF.

HE'S MURDERED PEOPLE, RIGHT?

WHY ISN'T HE JUST ARRESTED?

ON THE SURFACE, YES.

SO SHE'S COMIN' HERE FOR HER SAFETY?

WE'RE 99% SURE, BUT WE DON'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL WE'RE 100% SURE.

IN OTHER WORDS, SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF A PRESIDENT.

HER FATHER IS HER COUNTRY'S LEADER.

UNFORTUNATELY, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE DETRACTORS.

IT'S THE HEAD OF THE MILITARY IN THIS CASE.

HER COUNTRY'S FINALLY SEEING SOME POLITICAL STABILITY THANKS TO HIM. HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING-AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, HE'S COMMITTED TO PEACE.

THE GENERAL IS A BLOODTHIRSTY KILLER WHO'LL THINK NOTHING OF ASSASSINATING HIS WAY TO THE TOP. TO THEIR CREDIT, THE CITIZENS HAVE REFUSED TO VOTE FOR HIM. SO...



ONE OF THE BEST?

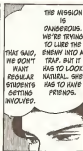
WE CHOSE THIS SCHOOL BECAUSE IT'S PRESTIGIOUS. SHE'S A PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER, SO SHE ISN'T GOING TO BE ENROLLED AT ANY OLD SCHOOL. IT HAS TO LOOK REAL.

PLUS, OF COURSE, YOU GUYS ARE HERE.



THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN. YOU'VE OUR OUTSIDE SUPPORT. BEFRIEND HER.

WAIT A MINUTE!!



THAT SAID, WE DON'T WANT REGULAR STUDENTS GETTING INVOLVED.

THE MISSION IS DANGEROUS. WE'RE TRYING TO LURE THE ENEMY INTO A TRAP. BUT IT HAS TO LOOK NATURAL. SHE HAS TO HAVE FRIENDS.

SHE'S ONE OF THE BEST AGENTS UNDER NINE IN ASIA.



OF COURSE



THEY CAN'T OPERATE IN NUMBERS HERE NOR CAN THEY GO AROUND THREATENING EVERYONE.



YOU'RE USING A PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER AS BAIT?

THAT'S GOING TOO FAR!



REALISTICALLY, SHE'S STILL GOING TO BE A TARGET HERE.



BUT SHE REALLY ISN'T HERE TO STUDY.

THE REAL PLAN IS TO LURE THE ENEMY INTO A TRAP AND CAPTURE THEM.



SHE ISN'T THE REAL DAUGHTER.

I FORGOT TO MENTION THIS.



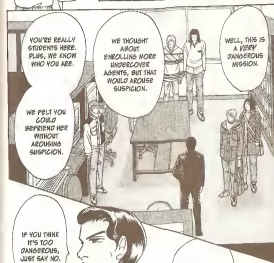
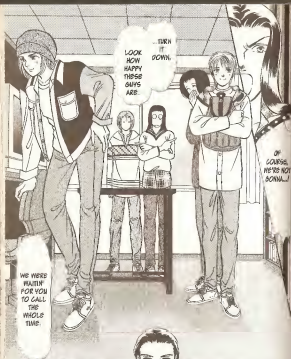
SO SHE'S A U.S. AGENT?



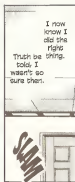
U.S. TOOK THE REAL ONE IN FOR PROTECTION AGES AGO.



SAY WHAT?







I now know I did the right thing. Truth be told, I wasn't so sure then.

It's good to see you smile again.

Just a regular bear's no less.

It was the first time she fell in love with someone.

He's living a normal life somewhere out of the way.

It's reassuring to know he's safe - for now.

He's always going to be in danger if he's with Nine.



TELL HIM I'LL GET AROUND TO SEEING HIM. GIVE HIM MY REGARDS.

THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.



ANYWAY, SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE FROM HONG KONG.

AREN'T YOU SETTING YOUR STANDARDS A SHADE HIGH?

YEAH, RIGHT.

WHAT ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT? YOU LIVE FOR THEM.

WHAT A PAIN. IT'S A GIRL.

THAT WAS BEFORE YOU!

NOTHING LESS WILL DO IT FOR ME NOW.

THAT'S PROBABLY JUST A COVER, LIKE HER NAME.

THERE ARE MILLIONS OF U.S. AGENTS.

SHE MUST BE NOTHING IF SHE'S JUST BAIT.

AND YOU'RE SOMETHING?

WE DREW LOTS - AND LOST.

SO HOW COME WE HAVE TO GO AND SET HERE?

SHE'S HERE.

YEAH.

Who knows what lies ahead for them?

There's no way of finding out.

Nine. I can only hope your happiness lasts.

GACHA

IT SHOULD BE INTERESTING. I WONDER WHAT NUMBER SHE IS.

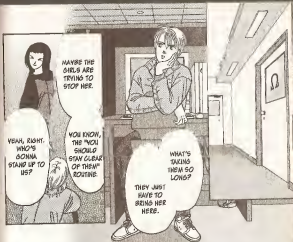
TOOK YOU GUYS LONG ENOUGH!

FINALLY! THEY'RE HERE.

WHERE IS SHE?

WHY SO TENSE?

RIGHT HERE.



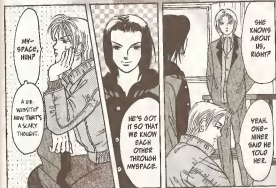
MAYBE THE GIRLS ARE TRYING TO STOP HER.

YEAH, RIGHT. WHO'S GONNA STAND UP TO US?

YOU KNOW, THE "YOU SHOULD STAY CLEAR OF THEM" ROUTINE.

WHAT'S TAKING THEM SO LONG?

THEY JUST HAVE TO BRING HER HERE.



HY-SPACE, HUH?

A DE WUNDERFOL NEW THING! A SCARY THOUGHT.

HE'S GOT IT SO THAT WE KNOW EACH OTHER THROUGH HYSPACE.

SHE KNOWS ABOUT US, RIGHT?

YEAH. ONE-NINE SAID HE TOLD HER.



SHE LOOKS LIKE YOU.

BUT, YOU NOTICE?

LIKE, AH... WOW. NOTHING LIKE I EXPECTED.

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO.

AISEN, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE GUYS.

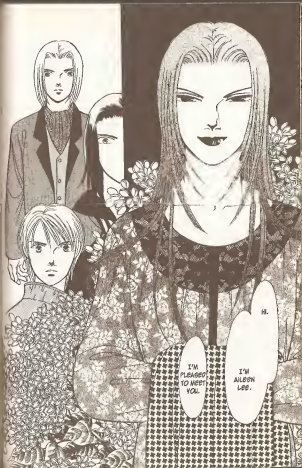


AND ASAMI TAKESHI, SECOND IN INTELLIGENCE TO KANA. MIXED HERITAGE. ONE OF HIS GRANDPARENTS IS DESCENDED FROM EUROPEAN NOBILITY.

SASAKI KOUNOH, SON OF A POLITICIAN.
NOJIMA TAKUMI, VERY GOOD WITH MACHINES.

NAKAMURA KAMAHIS.
I
ALWAYS COOL UNDER FIRE.

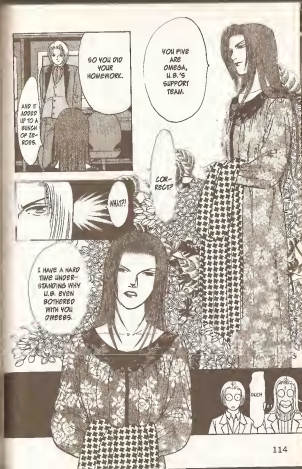
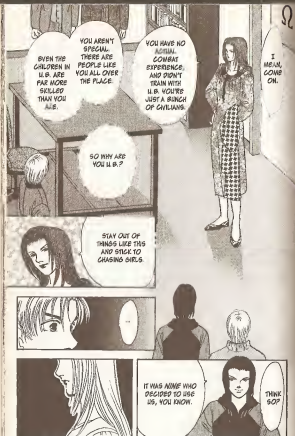
OGIMORI KANA, VERY HIGH I.Q. CALLED A GENIUS SINCE A CHILD.



H.

I'M PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

I'M AISEN LES.





GOP
WHERE?



WHAT DO
YOU
MEAN?

YOU
DON'T
KNOW?!



YOU ARE
READY?

LET'S
GO.



THIS IS A
SCHOOL?
WITH STUDENTS?
EVER THINK THEY
MIGHT BE
ENDANGERED IF
THE ENEMY
COMES HERE?

THE MISSION IS
TO TRAIN THE
ENEMY OUT
AND CATCH
THEM.
REMEMBER?

THIS IS
WHY I HATE
AMATEURS!



I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
WHY SOMEONE
LIKE HER WOULD
EVEN BOTHER
WITH THE LIKES
OF YOU.



SHE MUST HAVE
HAD A VERY GOOD
REASON. I
WOULDN'T FLAT
OUT REJECTED
YOUR "HELP."



YOU
DON'T
UNDER-
STAND
ANY-
THING.



GILL
OUT,
DUDE!

THE
LIKES
OF
US!

WHERE
DO YOU
GET OFF
SAYING
THAT?!



SO TREAT HER
WITH
RESPECT.
DON'T EVER
FORGET.

WORLD
LEADERS
REVERE HER
AS ALMOST A
GOD. THAT'S
HOW
POWERFUL
SHE IS.

U.S. IS
ALMOST A
LEGEND IN
ITSELF,
FEARED BY
EVERY
ROGUE
OPERATION
OUT THERE.



AILEEN
DOESN'T LIKE
THAT WE WERE
EVEN ON A
FIRST NAME
BASIS.

THE REAL
NINE IS SO
POWERFUL
IT'S UNREAL.

HERE HE WERE,
TREATIN' HER
LIKE SHE WAS
ONE OF US.



BUT SHE GOT
NO THINKING
ABOUT
SOMETHING
ELSE.

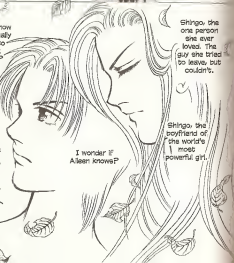
Does she know Nine likes
Shingo?
And Shingo's just a
regular guy - like us.



I wonder if
she knows.

Does she know
how they finally
managed to
get back
together?

Does she
know they're
together
somewhere?



Shingo, the
one person
she ever
loved. The
guy she tried
to leave, but
couldn't.

Shingo, the
boyfriend of
the world's
most
powerful girl.

I wonder if
Aileen knows?



WAT'S

HURRY
UP AND
GET
READY!



CHILL
OUT,
DUDE.

THAT
STUPID
GOW!



DON'T
GET IN MY
WAY,
SISTER.

IF YOU'RE
PRETENDING
YOU'RE U.S.,
THE LEAST YOU
COULD DO IS
THINK ABOUT
THAT SORT OF
THINGS.

SHE DIDN'T
PULL ANY
PUNCHES
THERE, BUT
YOU
PROBABLY
DON'T SEE
THAT TOO
OFTEN IN
U.S.

KANNA, I'M
SURPRISED
YOU PUT UP
WITH IT.

NAH,
SHE'S
RIGHT.

WE'RE NOT
VERY GOOD
BY U.S.
STANDARDS.





IF YOU'RE
U.S., THINK
ABOUT
WHERE YOU
SET
TOGETHER.



I DIDN'T
THINK THEY'D
COME
DURING
SCHOOL
HOURS.

BUT THEY
NOTICED
THIS
ROOM IS
OUT OF
THE WAY.

IT'S
BETTER IF
I
ESCAPED
FOR NOW.

THIS
ISN'T THE
TIME OR
PLACE
TO FIGHT
THEM.

SO
NOW
WHAT?

THEY'RE
COMING UP
THOSE VERY
STAIRS
RIGHT NOW.

ESCAPED?
WE'RE ON
THE FOURTH
FLOOR! THE
ONLY EXIT IS
THE STAIRS
OUT FRONT!

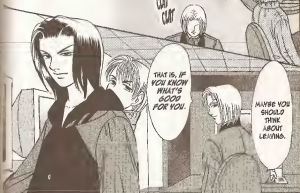


OWA

HEY, I
JUST
REAL-
IZED.

WE
FORGOT
TO ASK
HER HER
CODE
NUMBER.







I
ALMOST
FOR-
GOT.

THE ANSWER
TO YOUR
QUESTION?



SHE HAD A
GUN
POINTED AT
THEM.



I SAW
HER
OUT-
SIDE.



AS NEAR
AS
ALWAYS.



I'M GLAD
THERE
WAS NO
ONE
OUTSIDE.



SHE WAS
READY TO
COME IN
PLAYING IF
ANYTHING
WENT
WRONG.



WHAT IF
WE
WERE?

I SAID
YOU
WOULDN'T
BE IN
DANGER.



YOU
ESCAPED,
ONLY
THINKING
ABOUT
YOURSELF!



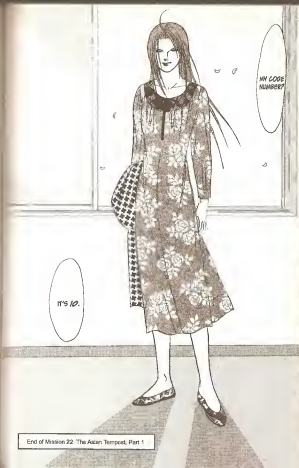
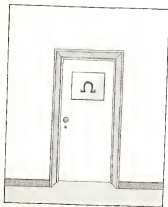
THEN DEAL
WITH IT!
YOU'RE
PRETENDING
YOU'RE U.S.

IF YOU
CAN'T
HANDLE IT,
THEN GET
OUT.



THAT
WAS
PRETTY
GOOD.

MAYBE
YOU'RE
NOT SO
BAD.



End of Mission 22: The Asian Tempest, Part 1



EVERY-
THING'S IN
PLACE!

PREPA-
RATIONS?

WELCOME
TO OUR
BASE!

NO, WE BEGIN
OPERATIONS
IMMEDIATELY.

WILL YOU
BE
RESTING
UP?

OTHERWISE,
I WOULDN'T
HAVE
FLOWN AN
F-15 FROM
JAPAN.

TIME IS
OF THE
ESSENCE.

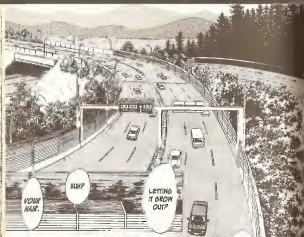
The Asian Tempest, Part 2



9番目の ムサシ

Mission 22: The Asian Tempest, Part 2





IT'S HIS WAY OF
GETTIN' OVER YUJI.
HE'S GOING FOR
THE GRINSE LOOK.

IT'S A WEIRD WAY
OF DOIN' IT, BUT
HE'S NEVER BEEN
A CONFORMIST.

KAINA
DOESN'T
GET
CAUGHT
UP IN
THAT
SORTA
THING.

YOU
DIDN'T





U.S. agent #10.

She's with us, undercover as a daughter of a Southeast Asian president.

We're supposed to help her.

Her mission is to lure the enemy out and trap 'em.

She looks a lot like Yui.

Yeah, a lot like Yui.

That makes it so hard on me.

LIKE I SAID.



SHE'S...

NINE

I'M NOWHERE NEAR HER.

SHE'S AMAZING.

That distant stare.

She's always like that when she starts talking about Yui.

She admires her, but there's something else.





WHY WOULD SOMEONE LIKE HER GO OUT WITH THAT?

WITH WHAT SHE WAS GOING FOR HER, SHE COULD...AH, FORGET IT.

I HAVE A HARD TIME TRYING TO COMPREHEND THAT ONE.

OH...

NOT THAT I WANT TO BELIEVE IT.



I HAVE YOU FIGURED.

It's a rivalry - between girls.

It's sortin' to sorta make sense. I think I know what's eatin' her.



WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?

HEY HEY.

YOU LOOK LIKE YUI, BUT YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE HER.



BR, ALLEN?

CAN'T HE JUST GET ALONG, YOU TWO?

YOU MIGHT BE BOOD, BUT ONE THING YOU'RE DEFINITELY NOT IS AN ASSHOLE JUDGE OF CHARACTER.

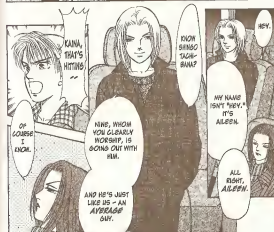
IN A WAY, I'M RELIEVED.



HOW CAN YOU BE CRUSHED? SHE WASN'T INTERESTED IN ANY OF YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE. AND STOP REFERRING TO HER LIKE SHE'S YOUR FRIEND.



You was never this mean.



KAINA, THAT'S HITTING.

KNOW SHINGO JACK-BAMA?

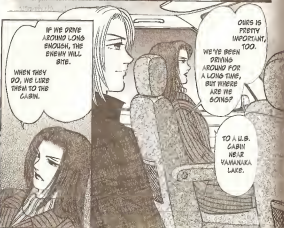
HEY.

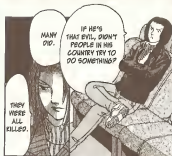
MY NAME ISN'T 'HEY.' IT'S ALLEN.

ALL RIGHT, ALLEN.

NINE, WHOM YOU CLEARLY WORSHIP, IS GOING OUT WITH HIM.

AND HE'S JUST LIKE US - AN AVERAGE GUY.





MANY DID.

IF HE'S THAT EVIL, DIDN'T PEOPLE IN HIS COUNTRY TRY TO DO SOMETHING?

THEY WERE ALL KILLED.



KILLER?

COUP

SOMETIMES, IT'S AN 'ACCIDENT.' SOMETIMES, THEY JUST DISAPPEAR.

NINETEEN MUST HAVE TOLD YOU. THE GENERAL ASSASSINATES EVERYONE WHO GETS IN HIS WAY.

NOT JUST HIS ENEMIES, BUT THEIR ENTIRE FAMILIES.

WOMEN, CHILDREN. HE DOESN'T SPARE ANYONE.

THE HEAD OF THE MILITARY?

THE PERFECT SPOT TO PULL OFF A COUP.

HE CAN'T WIN AN ELECTION BECAUSE OF HIS REPUTATION.

SO HE KIDNAPS THE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER AND FORCES HIM TO RESIGN. THEN IT'S JUST A MATTER OF STAGING THE COUP.



WHO'S THEIR BOSS?

WE HAVE TO WE NEED THEM TO INCRIMINATE THEIR BOSS.

CAN WE REALLY CATCH THEM?

IT'S THE OFF SEASON, SO IT'LL BE QUIET AROUND THERE.

FEWER PEOPLE WILL GET CAUGHT IN THE CROSS-FIRE.

HE'S SECOND-IN-COMMAND OF THE ARMY AFTER THE PRESIDENT.

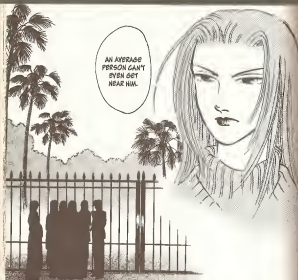
HE'S A GEN-ERAL.

THE WORD ON HIM HAS ALWAYS BEEN BAD, BUT HE'S NEVER LEFT ANY EVIDENCE BEHIND.

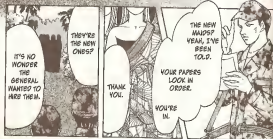
HE'S A GOLD-BLOODED KILLER. HE'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET WHAT HE WANTS.

HIS NAME'S RAN WAR GUNN.

WITHOUT EVIDENCE, WE CAN'T APPREHEND HIM.



AN AVERAGE
PERSON CAN'T
EVEN GET
NEAR HIM.



IT'S NO
WONDER
THE
GENERAL
WANTED TO
HIRE THEM.

THEY'RE
THE NEW
ONES?

THANK
YOU.

THE NEW
MAJORS?
YEAH, I'VE
BEEN
TOLD.

YOUR PAPERS
LOOK IN
ORDER.

YOU'RE
IN.



THE VICTIMS'
FRIENDS HAVE
PLOTED
REVENGE.
THEY'VE EVEN HIRED
PROFESSIONAL
ASSASSINS.
NOTHING'S
WORKED.

THAT'S
GOING
TOO
FAR.

THAT
LO-
SER.



AMONG THEM,
FIVE ARE IN A
CLASS APART.
THE
"GERSSEUS"
TEAM IS THE
MOST SKILLFUL
AND SKILLED
OF THE LOT.

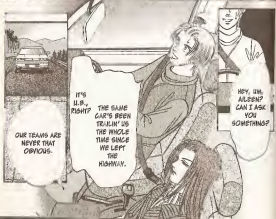
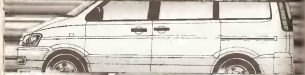
THEY GO
THROUGH AN
EVEN TOUGHER
TRAINING
PROGRAM.
MARTIAL ARTS,
TACTICS, YOU
NAME IT. THEY'RE
FEARED BY
EVERYONE IN
THE COUNTRY.

THE GENERAL
HANDPICKS THE
BEST SOLDIERS
TO SERVE AS HIS
BODYGUARDS.



AN AVERAGE
PERSON
COULDN'T KILL
HIM.

PEOPLE WHO
GO INTO THE
GENERAL'S LAR
ARE NEVER
HEARD FROM
AGAIN.



IT'S
U.S.,
RIGHT?

THE SAME
CAR'S BEEN
TRAILIN' US
THE WHOLE
TIME SINCE
WE LEFT
THE
HIGHWAY.

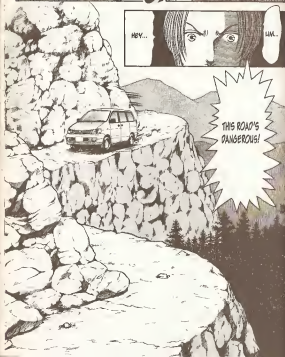
OUR TEAMS ARE
NEVER THAT
OBVIOUS.

HEY, UH,
ALDEN?
CAN I ASK
YOU
SOMETHING?



THEY
WERE
ALL
BEAUTI-
FUL.









ALBEN. SHE'S EVERYTHING YOU'D EXPECT ABOUT TEN OF U.S. TO BE.

I HEAR YA THERE.

BUT IT'S LIKE WATCHING YOU ALL OVER AGAIN.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU.

WHAT IS?

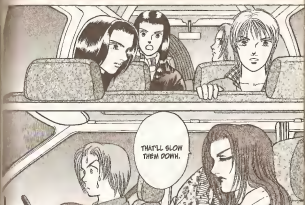
MILD, ENOUGH.

THIS PLACE IS DEAD, BUT THEN IT IS THE OFF SEASON.



Y E A H.

IS THIS YAMANAKA LAKE?



THAT'LL SLOW THEM DOWN.



THERE'S A REST AREA UP AHEAD.

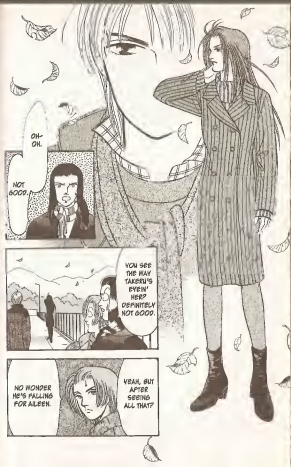
YOU MUST BE TIRED. WE'LL TAKE A BREAK, EVEN THOUGH WE'RE ALMOST THERE.

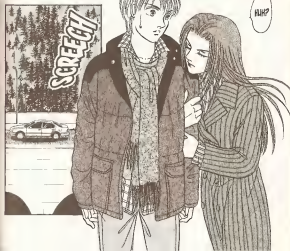
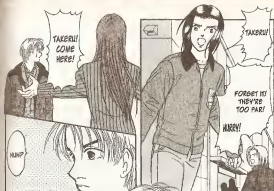
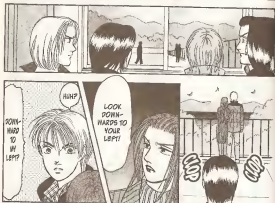
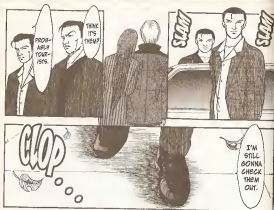
AND YOU DID IT WITH ONE SHOT, RIGHT?

YOU KNEW IF YOU SHOT THERE IT'D ALL COME DOWN. THAT'S WHY YOU LURED THEM THERE, RIGHT?

SM... HEY.

THAT ROAD.





WHAT ARE
YOU
STANDING
AROUND
FOR?
LET'S GO!

THEY'LL CHECK
BACK AND
EVERY SPOT
AROUND HERE.

WE'D BETTER
GET TO THE
CABIN AND
PLAN OUR
NEXT MOVE.

THEY'RE
GONE.

THAT WAS
EXTREME.

BR...

UH...

ALL...
YEAH.

HAH.

LET'S
GO.

SLAM
VRRRRR



AS YOU
WISH.

I WANT YOU
TO BE THE
HOSTESS AT
TOMORROW'S
PARTY.

DRESS
FOR THE
PART.



HE
ALREADY
HAS
EIGHT.

IN OTHER
WORDS, HE
WANTS TO MAKE
YOU HIS NEXT
WIFE.

IT'S THE
WIFE'S
DUTY TO
HOST THE
PARTY.



GOODBYE,
MASTER.



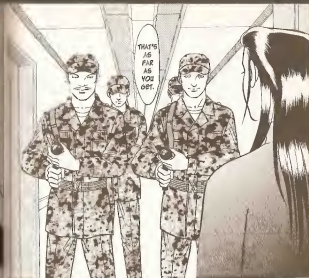
LINED

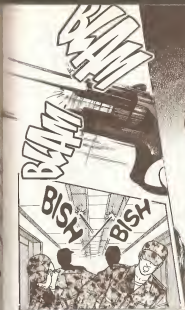
WE
UNDER-
STAND.

I WON'T BE
NEEDING
DINNER
TONIGHT. I
HAVE AN
ARMY
MEETING.











USELESS
IDIOTS.
THEY
CONSIDER
THEMSELVES
GOOD?

OR MAYBE
IT'S JUST YOU
LADIES ARE
TOO GOOD.

HOLD IT - THAT IS
IF YOU DON'T
CARE ABOUT YOUR
TWO FRIENDS.

...ZP

THEN
YOU'RE...

210?
333?

WE WILL.





I'M NOT HUNGRY.

NO.

WE ALSO HAVE SOME SANDWICHES.



YEAH, WE GOT A FEW OF THESE.

NOT NERVOUS?

IF NOTHING ELSE, IT'S HARD TO RATTLE YOUR GAGE.

HEY, GIMME THOSE!

THEY'RE MINE!

SUIT YOURSELF. I'M EATING NOW! HEH HEH!

OH STANFORD

THE BEST OF THE GENERAL'S BODYGUARDS

YOU'RE GERBER-
US.

BUT YOU REALLY
HATE IT WHEN THEY
HAND OUT WITH
PEOPLE BENEATH
YOU. IT MAKES
YOU FEEL EVEN
LOWER.

YOU CAN'T
STACK UP TO
SOME
PEOPLE, BUT
RATHER THAN
ADMIT YOUR
OWN
FAILINGS,
YOU SAY YOU
RESPECT
THEM.

YOU
REPLACE
JEALOUSY
WITH
RESPECT.

SO AM I
RIGHT?

THAT'S
GOING
TOO FAR!

(SIGH)
I'M
SORRY,
MR.
FRIEND.

IF YOU HAVE
TIME TO
PSYCHOANALYZE
ME, START
PLANNING A
DEFENSE. NOW
THAT WOULD BE
SMART.

I HAVE
NEITHER THE
PATIENCE
NOR THE TIME
TO DEAL WITH
THAT.

THAT WAS A
COMPLI-
MENT. YOUR
LACK OF
CONCERN IS
IMPRESSIVE
GIVEN THE
SITUATION.

IT
WAS?

YES.

WHY ARE
YOU SO
SHARPLY?

YOU KNOW,
I'VE BEEN
WANTING TO
ASK YOU
THIS.

THIS
SORT OF
THING
HAPPENS
ALL THE
TIME.

KAINA!

TRY AS YOU
MIGHT, YOU'RE
NOWHERE AS
GOOD AS YUU.
BUT THAT SAME
YUU IS WILLING TO
PUT UP WITH
REGULAR GUYS
LIKE US.

THAT'S
WHAT'S
REALLY
EATING YOU,
ISN'T IT?



IT'S A
MIRACLE WITH
WHAT'S
HAPPENING
WITH YUJI AND
SHINZO.

HE'S ONLY
GONNA GET
HURT IF HE
FALLS FOR
ANOTHER
U.S.
AGENT.

NAH, IT'S
BETTER
YOU DID.

DOPS, THINK I
LAID
KID
HIM
TOO
MUCH?



WHAT ARE
YOU
GAMING?
YOU
CROSSED
THE LINE
THERE!

SHE
WAS
HURT.

THAT
WOULD
HURT
HER?

NOT
BAD.

SHE FIRED
RIGHT BACK
WITHOUT
BATTING AN
EYELASH.

SHE'S
GOOD.

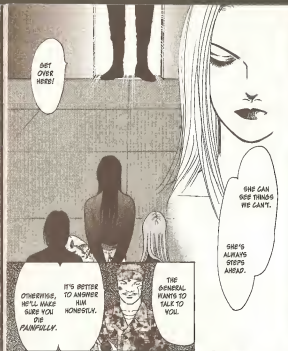


DO HER A FAVOR,
DON'T THINK
SHE'S YUJI AND
THEN COME ON
TO HER LIKE
THAT.

SURE, SHE
LOOKS LIKE
YUJI, BUT
SHE'S
SOMEONE
ELSE ALTO-
GETHER.

YOU'D
BETTER
SHARPEN
UP, TOO.





GET
OVER
HERE!

SHE CAN
SEE THINGS
WE CAN'T.

SHE'S
ALWAYS
STEPS
AHEAD.

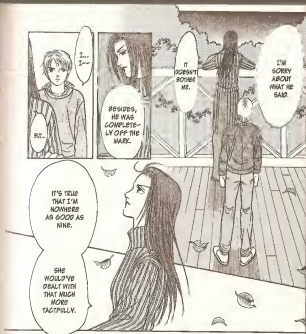
OTHERWISE,
HE'LL MAKE
SURE YOU
DIE
PAINFULLY.

IT'S BETTER
TO ANSWER
HIM
HONESTLY.

THE
GENERAL
WANTS TO
TALK TO
YOU.

SOME-
TIMES, IT
LOOKS
LIKE
SHE'S IN
DANGER.

PERSONALLY,
I'D RATHER
SEE YOU
SUFFER.



RE...

I...
I...

BESIDES,
HE WAS
COMPLETE-
LY OFF THE
MARK.

IT
DOESN'T
BOther
ME.

I'M
SORRY
ABOUT
WHAT HE
SAID.

IT'S TRUE
THAT I'M
NOWHERE
AS GOOD AS
NINE.

SHE
WOULDOVE
DEALT WITH
THAT MUCH
MORE
TACTFULLY.

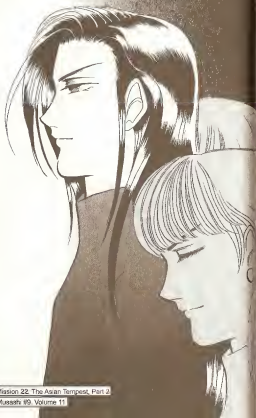


SHE'S
ALWAYS
LOOK-
ING
AHEAD.

IT ONLY
LOOKED
THAT WAY.

SHE HAD
HER
REASONS.

EVEN SHE
HAD
PROBLEMS
WITH KAINA.



End of Mission 22: The Asian Tempest, Part 2

End of Musashy #9, Volume 11

